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NWT Labour Force Activity

January 2016

Overview

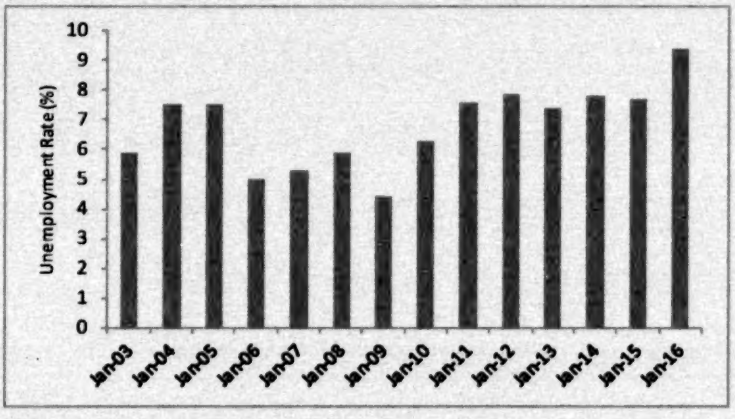
Statistics Canada estimates that, in January 2016, out of 32,100 residents 15 years of age and older 22,100 persons were employed in the Northwest Territories, representing an employment rate of 68.8%. Among provinces and territories, the Northwest Territories had the highest employment rate followed by Yukon and Alberta. Nationally, Canada's employment rate was 60.0%.

In the NWT, employment rose for the second consecutive month, increasing the number of employed persons by 400 between December 2015 and January 2016. On a year-over-year basis, the number of employed persons increased by 500.

Table 1: Labour Force Statistics - Northwest Territories

	Jan 2016	Dec 2015	Jan 2015	Change from Jan 2015 – Jan 2016	
				Number	%
Population 15+	32,100	32,000	32,300	(200)	-0.6
Labour force	24,400	24,100	23,400	1,000	4.3
Employment	22,100	21,700	21,600	500	2.3
Full-time	18,800	18,600	19,300	(500)	-2.6
Part-time	3,300	3,000	2,200	1,100	50.0
Unemployment	2,300	2,400	1,800	500	27.8
Participation rate (%)	76.0	75.3	72.4		
Unemployment rate (%)	9.4	10.0	7.7		
Employment rate (%)	68.8	67.8	66.9		

Figure 1: Historical Unemployment Rates for January, Northwest Territories



Although the unemployment rate dropped from last month to 9.4%, this was the highest for the month of January since 2003. Compared to the same time last year, there were 500 more unemployed persons in January 2016.

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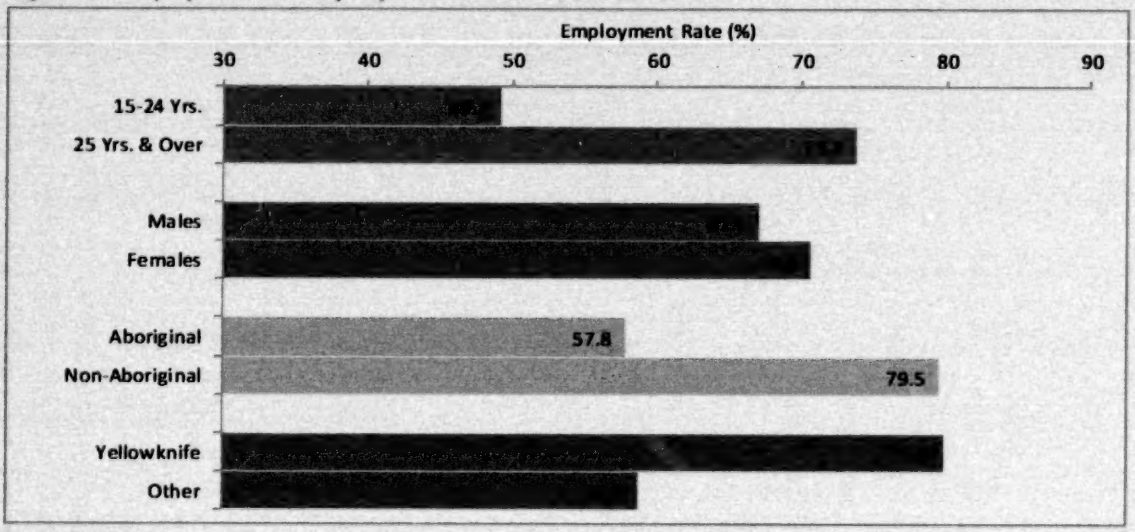
EMPLOYMENT BY TYPE OF WORKER, CLASS OF WORKER & INDUSTRY

In January 2015 employment rates increased for all key characteristics compared to the previous month. Increases among females, Aboriginals, and those aged 15-24 years increased by at least 3 percentage points. Similar to last month, the employment rate among females was higher than that for males.

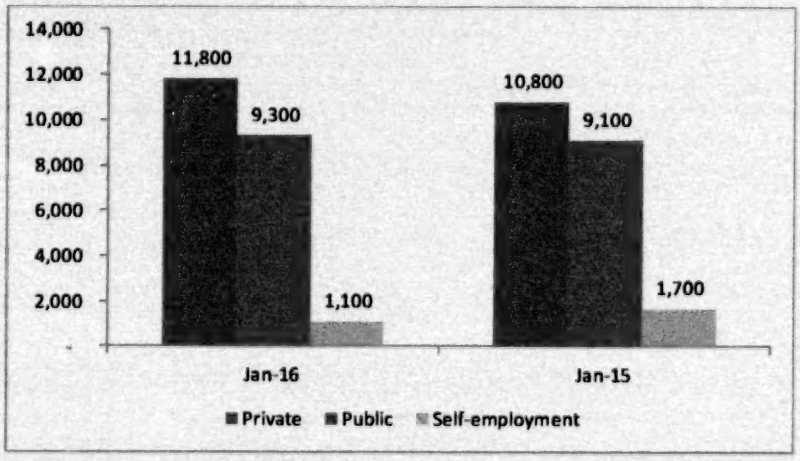
Figure 2: Employment rates by key characteristics, Jan 2016



EMPLOYMENT BY CLASS OF WORKER

Compared to January 2015, employment in the private and public sectors increased by 1,000 and 200 persons, respectively. In contrast, self-employment decreased by 600 persons offsetting overall employment gains.

Figure 3: Employment by Class of Worker



HISTORICAL LABOUR FORCE ACTIVITY

Table 2: Labour Force Activity -Northwest Territories

	Population 15 & Over	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Not in the Labour Force	Participation Rate	Unemployment Rate	Employment Rate
Jan-16	32,100	24,400	22,100	2,300	7,600	76.0	9.4	68.8
Dec-15	32,000	24,100	21,700	2,400	7,900	75.3	10.0	67.8
Nov-15	31,900	24,000	21,500	2,500	8,000	75.2	10.4	67.4
Oct-15	31,900	24,100	21,900	2,200	7,700	75.5	9.1	68.7
Sep-15	31,800	24,300	22,200	2,100	7,500	76.4	8.6	69.8
Aug-15	31,800	24,500	22,500	2,000	7,300	77.0	8.2	70.8
Jul-15	31,800	24,500	22,500	2,000	7,300	77.0	8.2	70.8
Jun-15	31,900	23,800	22,200	1,700	8,000	74.6	7.1	69.6
May-15	32,000	23,500	21,600	1,900	8,500	73.4	8.1	67.5
Apr-15	32,100	23,200	21,600	1,600	8,800	72.3	6.9	67.3
Mar-15	32,200	23,600	21,700	1,900	8,500	73.3	8.1	67.4
Feb-15	32,200	23,600	21,800	1,800	8,600	73.3	7.6	67.7
Previous Years:								
Jan-15	32,300	23,400	21,600	1,800	8,900	72.4	7.7	66.9
Jan-14	32,600	24,400	22,500	1,900	8,200	74.8	7.8	69.0
Jan-13	32,600	24,400	22,600	1,800	8,200	74.8	7.4	69.3
Jan-12	32,300	24,200	22,300	1,900	8,100	74.9	7.9	69.0
Jan-11	32,100	23,600	21,800	1,800	8,500	73.5	7.6	67.9
Jan-10	31,800	22,100	20,700	1,400	9,700	69.5	6.3	65.1
Jan-09	31,700	22,800	21,800	1,000	8,900	71.9	4.4	68.8
Jan-08	31,700	23,700	22,300	1,400	8,000	74.8	5.9	70.3
Jan-07	31,300	24,600	23,300	1,300	6,800	78.6	5.3	74.4
Jan-06	31,200	23,800	22,700	1,200	7,400	76.3	5.0	72.8

Information on the territorial labour market is a result of the extension of Statistics Canada's national labour force survey (LFS) to the Northwest Territories. Data presented for the Northwest Territories is based on three-month moving averages, with survey counts rounded to the nearest 100 persons.

For additional information on the monthly release of labour force survey results for the Northwest Territories, visit the NWT Bureau of Statistics website at http://www.statsnwt.ca/ or call 1-888-782-8768 (1-888-STATSNT).

Next Release: March 11, 2016